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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015

East Village gets anxious

"We're on the precipice of having an all-out fricken' war in this neighbourhood," resident says.
Page 6

Fall fruit gets a makeover

A pear with a cool name has hit store shelves this fall. Will consumers warm up to it?
Page 20

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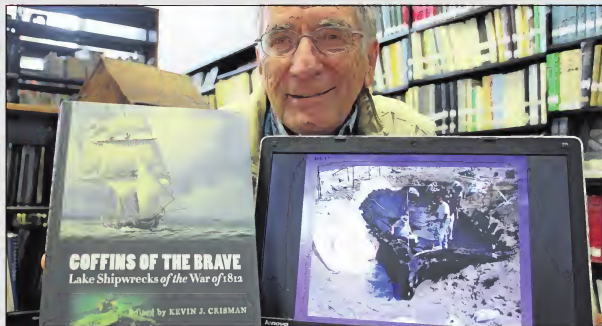


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GREG FURRINGHER/
POSTMEDIA
NETWORK

Marine

archaeologist

Ken Cassavoy,

who recently

moved to

Welland, is

working to get

the remains of

a War of

1812 ship he

helped to

uncover from

the sands of

Southampton,

Ont.,

designated a

national

historic site.

His story on the HMS

General

Hunter is

profiled in

the recent

book Coffins

of the Brave.

See story on

page 8.

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UPFRONT

■ **ELECTION:** Incumbent Malcolm Allen falls in close race

Badawey rides red wave to win

FRANKI IKEMAN
Postmedia Network

Monday was a big night for Liberals everywhere, including Niagara Centre.

It was bound to be a tough fight against NDP incumbent Malcolm Allen, but Vance Badawey pulled ahead as of 11 p.m. when he was leading by nearly 2,000 votes — Badawey then with 11,005 votes, Allen with 9,235 and third-place Leanna Villella of the Conservatives with 6,513.

"We have a great team and a lot of people did a lot of work. Without the team we've had for the past three, five months, this wouldn't have happened," Badawey said when asked to comment on his win.

He is anxious to move in to his new Ottawa office.

"Let's roll up the sleeves and get to it ... Justin's put a very aggressive plan together and now it's time to implement it and get this country back to where it should be."

Monday night's federal election came as a surprise to New Democratic Party supporters in Niagara Centre — which includes Thorold, south St. Catharines, Welland and Port Colborne.

Dozens of supporters and family members gathered at Auberge Richelieu on Welland's River Road to celebrate with NDP incumbent Malcolm Allen.

But as the results started coming in, his supporters were surprised and disap-



pointed when his Liberal competitor defied opinion polls and predictions to pull ahead and build a healthy lead.

"It's not good," said Allen's sister Elspeth Silverwood as Badawey's lead continued to grow.

Earlier in the campaign, Allen had called the campaign a two-way race between himself and the riding's Conservative candidate, and polls conducted during the past 11 weeks indicated that Leanna Villella was his top rival.

The past two elections were close calls as well, with Conservative politicians nipping at Allen's heels. In 2008, the former Pelham town councillor defeated Conservative Alf Kiers by a mere 300 votes, and in 2011, he held on to his seat defeating Villella by just more than 1,000 votes.

There was a quiet cheer from NDP faithful when the first few poll results showed a 30-vote lead for Allen, as local election results started coming in, showing an early lead for Allen.

It was, however, short-lived.

Badawey fought hard through a long campaign,



Vance Badawey hugs mom Claudette at M.T. Bellies.

FRANKI IKEMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

following his party to a Liberal majority.

"Niagara Centre is very close, but I think that the public is happy to have a change," said Sue Barnett, the Liberal party's past riding president. "Vance Badawey is a quality candidate, he did a really good job for the city of Port Colborne."

M.T. Bellies restaurant in

Welland started to fill with Grit supporters, volunteers and family of Badawey at 10 p.m.

Badawey's mom, Claudette Badawey, said after a long day of last-minute campaigning, she was looking forward to celebrating her son's win.

Claudette, her family and the rest of the Badawey team

sat watching the results come in. The room erupted with cheers with every Liberal win.

"The number is a little overwhelming, the last couple of days we sort of thought we were going to win but this result tonight is way beyond expectation," said Liberal supporter Paul Grenier, a Welland regional

councillor, of the Liberal sweep.

Badawey ran on the promise of bringing jobs to investment and jobs to Niagara's south.

He isn't new to politics, by any means. He served 17 years in elected office, beginning as a city councillor in Port Colborne and then as mayor for 14 years.

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— Rolling Stone



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in the history of Rock 'n' Roll as Clapton's
guitar or Dylan's lyrics."
— New York Times



ELECTION

MP Allison survives the red tide

DON FRASER
Postmedia Network

Dean Allison looked on with visibly mixed emotions on Monday night.



This, as the Niagara West Conservative Incumbent — and his supporters at the Butcher and Banker in Beamsville — absorbed a Liberal tide in Canada.

But early polls also showed Allison moving strongly ahead with somewhat less support than the last election at about 53% of the vote.

Liberal candidate Phil Rose and NDP candidate Nameer Rahman were trailing No. 2 and 3, respectively.

"It's disappointing," Allison said at about 10:40 p.m., witnessing a Liberal majority.

"I think it gives us a chance to try to rebuild the party," he said. "We're going to have to try to figure that out ... take some time to figure out what went wrong, and how we can fix it."

As for his promising lead in Niagara West, Allison said he "loved serving the people of Niagara West."

"We have been able to do a lot of things here in Niagara and I'm certainly looking forward to



Niagara West incumbent Dean Allison speaks with a supporter at his election night gathering.

DON FRASER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

this new opportunity," he said.

"We look forward to serving the people of West Niagara."

Allison, 50, lives in Beamsville and has been an MP for the riding, formerly known as Niagara West-Glanbrook, since 2004.

The married father of five is most recently chair of the foreign affairs and international development standing com-

mittee.

In the 2011 federal contest Allison easily took the riding with 33,701 or 57.3 per cent of votes cast. Coming in No. 2 was the NDP candidate David Healey, with 12,734 or 21.6 per cent of the votes, followed by Liberal candidate Stephen Bieda, with 8,699 or 14 per cent of the vote.

At Butcher and Banker supporters moved into position

earlier than the Phil Rose crew at their rented Legion digs in Beamsville. But as in other Niagara headquarters attention was turned to the jays game on the big-screen TV.

On his arrival just before Ontario results started coming in at 9:30 p.m., Allison reflected on the campaign.

"I think the campaign started off slow, because it was longer,"

he said. "Obviously, we were dealing with a lot of stuff on the national stage ... once Labour Day kicked in my feeling is that's when the real campaign started."

Rahman and his supporters took in election night coverage at Judge & Jester pub in Grimsby.

"The voters across Canada have come out for change,"

Rahman. "What margin the people in Niagara West will be voting for change (I look forward to seeing) one way or the other."

"The voter is always right and I look forward to the results."

Rose could not be reached for comment by press deadline.

don.fraser@postmedia.ca

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Deadline: Monday, October 19th, 2015



THE TRIBUNE

Remember Day feature

Wednesday, November 11th

The feature will focus on local individuals who served in the wars as well as peacekeeping missions around the world. The veteran profile will include a short bio and a photo of the veteran. If you were a member of, please note that veterans profiled in last year's feature are not re-ordered for inclusion in this year's section. Veterans from last year's section may simply email their profile to ext 503283 or email trevor.beattie@sunmedia.ca



We ask that real veterans and the service they were a member of. Please drop off or email information to: The Tribune, 1000 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Unit 100, Oakville, ON L3B 5P5. Hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm. Email your photo and information to: trevor.beattie@sunmedia.ca. Deadline for submissions is Monday, October 19th, 2015.



William (Bert) Devore
Served during WWI

Sample - Actual Size

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

A closer look at happiness and joy

PASTOR GARY TOMLUCK
Wellfleet Congregational Christian Church

Everyone longs to be happy. Some try to find happiness through the toys and trinkets of this world. They are best short-lived. Others look for the perfect relationship thinking that will fill the deepest longing of their soul and make them happy.

God is the only one who can answer that need because He is the only one who is infinitely happy.

Maybe you have never thought in those terms before. Maybe your conception of God is of an angry being, judgmental and so holy that He is anything but happy. But God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit from eternity past, present and future will always share in the holy communion, fellowship, joy and happiness of each other.

Johnathan Edwards wrote: "He has created man to this very end to make him happy in the enjoyment of himself, the almighty who was happy from the days of eternity in himself"

If Jesus is God of every god and also known

as a man of sorrows could anyone say that He was happy? I believe that joy and happiness relate to each other. Some people say that happiness is only a state of mind dependent upon one's circumstances. Where happiness can be experienced even in difficult circumstances.

These two traits come together beautifully in the life and ministry of the Lord. Through His rejection by the people He longed to save, through the pain and suffering He endured on the cross and greatest of all by His abandonment by His own Father as Jesus became a sin offering for us He experienced joy. How is this possible you might ask? Jesus looked back to the joy He had with His Father before His incarnation and ahead to its continuation after His death and resurrection.

Charles Spurgeon wrote: "If you knew anything of the joy of the happy God, you would understand that a truly Christian life cannot be an unhappy one."

Hebrew dictionaries use the word "happy" as the closest English equivalent for *asher*. Sometimes *asher* is translated "blessed." One could be blessed (happy) is the man who fears the Lord. (prov.28:14).

Then why not use the word blessed? There is nothing wrong with this word. It is a beautiful and majestic word and not to split theological hairs but blessed is one of the many English words that have changed meanings since the 16th century.

Leon Morris says that "makarios" points to happiness, but not happiness in a general, secular way. It means joy that comes from the presence and approval of God. The Lord wants His joy to be in His followers. This will also encourage us and spur us on as we go through difficult circumstances and even persecution.

We are blessed, happy and rejoice for our reward is great in Heaven. I used to think, as I am sure most Christians still do, that happiness was lesser than joy and about as fickle as the weather. But according to Hebrew scholar Reinier De Blois "in the Hebrew happiness is a more profound concept than joy as the former is usually directed to God's intervention. *Asher* is happiness caused by God."

In Matthew 25:21 the obedient servants of the Lord share in their masters happiness (joy).

Two other words seem paradoxical

but they are not. They are holiness and happiness.

A holy life results in a happy life, which is its byproduct, in other words pure holiness is pure happiness. If it is God's nature to be happy (and it is) then the more we become like Him (holiness) the happier we become.

Thomas Manton wrote: "God is a holy and happy being. If we are supposed to be like God, shouldn't we be happy to? Is it right to seek happiness? Only in God for that is where it alone is found."

The Westminster Catechism says that the chief end of man is to enjoy God and to enjoy Him forever.

John Piper said that "God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." We delight in God, we long after Him as the deer longs after the water brooks. And as we put Him first by cultivating His presence in our lives we continue to hunger and thirst after Him. We pursue hard after Him wanting more of His fullness, more of God.

It is not happiness or joy but both. "Rejoice in the Lord and be happy, you who are godly shout for joy." (Ps.32:11) (New English Translation)

Shipwrecks
— NovaSKIP GILLHAM
For Postmedia Network

While *French River* was built for the Great Lakes trade, it ended up travelling to many parts of the world without really finding a niche.

It caught fire in Turkey 10 years ago under the eighth name of *Nova* and was scrapped at Alagni in 2006.

French River was Hull 170 from the Collingwood shipyard. It entered service for Canada Steamship Lines on Aug. 25, 1961, and specialized as a package freight carrier between Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton using the newly opened St. Lawrence Seaway.

Changing economic conditions found the ship idle at Hamilton in 1973 and a variety of attempts to find a new service either did not materialize or failed after limited service.

It was active for a time on the Great Lakes as *Jensen Star* and *Woodlands* but also traded overseas to Algeria, Morocco, Brazil, and to the Canadian Arctic. It left Canada for



HANDOUT/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Nova is pictured in Turkey on May 16, 2006 in this photo by Selim San.

Caribbean service as *Woodlands* in 1991 and even traded down the west coast of South America.

The ship returned to the Great Lakes as

Lorena in 1998 but remained idle despite being upgraded at Hamilton. It left the seaway as *Nunavut* in June 2003, was renamed *Nova* D. for a return to the Arctic as a barge. It

then became *Nova* in 2005. The latter caught fire at Dillskele, Turkey, on Sept. 11, 2005, and the hull was dismantled at Alagni, Turkey, after arriving under tow on May 15, 2006.

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■ EDUCATION

Catholic school board hears new plan for math

WAYNE CAMPBELL
For Postmedia Network

A better understanding of mathematics by teachers adds up to stronger grades for math students.

Consultants for Niagara Catholic District School board see it as a way to improve mathematics test scores as well as produce more confident students.

In explaining a new math framework to the school board last week, they said the template outlines the why, how and what of a well-developed and delivered mathematics program.

Math consultant Chris Moscato said the program goes deeper into an understanding of mathematics. So far, more than 50 elementary teachers have entered into the training.

"You have to really understand math to teach it," he said. "It is an important piece of the 'how'."

Math coach Laura Cronshaw told the board they want to produce numeracy citizens "who see math as useful, sensible and worthwhile."

Moscato said the strategy for improving training for teachers who deal with mathematics instruction is more efficient than consultants trying to work one-on-one.

St. Catharines trustee Kathy Burtnick said she finds the concept "really exciting," like a dream team approach.

Mathematics teams work with educators to refine practices to increase student achievement.

Niagara Falls trustee Ed Nieuwesteeg asked if it will help to improve math scores across all levels of the system.

Education superintendent Mark Lefebvre said the school board wants to continue to raise Niagara Catholic's provincial math scores by taking the time to change the culture.

A large background image showing two business people in suits shaking hands, symbolizing a partnership or agreement. The image is framed by a green wavy border at the top and bottom.

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PORT COLBORNE

East Village neighbours anxious for change

FRANK IEMAN
Postmedia Network

Tension continues to build in Port Colborne's East Village.

Last Tuesday, city council voted to create a neighbourhood improvement task force over concerns raised by Ward 2 Councillor, Angie Desmarais at the Sept. 28 meeting.

But some neighbours still

feel action is not being taken quickly enough.

"We're on the precipice of having an all-out frickin' war in this neighbourhood," said resident Mike Jessome.

"We don't have time for them to process paper."

Jessome moved to the city's east side neighbourhood a little under a year ago from Vancouver. He admitted he has

had his own run-ins with the law in the past but has since cleaned up his act. He said even with his background, he hasn't seen anything like what's going on in East Village.

"I would think I'm in a Third World country living here," he said.

Criminal activity involving drugs, theft and violent interactions seem to be common-

place at all hours of the day, Jessome said.

He and several other residents say key among those problems is a high concentration of crystal methamphetamine sales.

Jessome said police seem to be moving in on marijuana grow-operations but don't appear to have control over the crystal meth situation.

"It's disgusting, it's disturbing, it's distressing," Jessome said.

"Nobody gives a crap about pot. Get the frickin' meth off the streets."

Mayor John Maloney said the city has to move on this issue quickly.

"It's actually really shocking that this type of activity is going on, that the people in the area have to endure that. And frankly, they don't have to endure it," Maloney said.

"It's a community thing. When the individuals are concerned about stepping forward out of fear and the potential repercussions — that's not the way it is in Canada, and it's not the way it should be."

The concerns Maloney referred to have come up at council and in interviews with residents. Neighbours said they fear retribution for speaking out about the state of their community with rumours of retaliation that have started to spread.

"We're now being threatened on a daily basis," Jessome said.

"Our houses have been threatened to be burned down."

Police have been more visible in the neighbourhood since the concerns were raised at council last month.

At last Tuesday's meeting, Niagara Regional Police Chief Jeff McGuire and 6 District Staff Sgt. Chris Healey answered questions about the state of policing in the city. The East Village dominated the discussion.

Asked by Ward 3 Councillor, Bea Kenny why a known crystal meth house had not been busted, McGuire said police have legislation they must operate within and these sorts of complaints don't get resolved overnight.

"It takes time. The police can't just walk in the door because people say there's a crystal meth house. It takes a great deal of time to build sufficient grounds for us to operate within the jurisdiction, as Chris (Healey) mentioned — within the law, to get search warrants, to have to proper authority to stop people and search them and to make arrests," he said.

Some residents aren't satisfied by that.

"They are starting to talk about forming vigilante groups to deal with the problems."

"If this is the way we have to clear our neighbourhood,

that's what we're going to do," Jessome said.

He said a group of neighbours have discussed taking matters into their own hands, but he would rather be able to sort it out verbally and work with city hall and police.

"We don't want to be vigilantes, and we totally concur with the idea of having some sort of neighbourhood watch," Jessome said.

But something has to happen soon, he added.

"We're not backing down. We just haven't taken the next step yet," he said.

Healey spoke against vigilante action when he addressed council.

"One thing that has caused me a bit of concern is citizens enquiring about taking matters into their own hands," he said. "We don't tolerate vigilantes, for lack of a better word, and unfortunately it doesn't offer a solution to what the issue is."

Asked later how she thought council's discussion with the NRP went, Desmarais said it was good to have the police there.

"I thought it was honest, I don't think there was any dodging," she said.

When it came to discussion regarding the task force, however, Desmarais said she thought there might have been some "misdirection" but was happy it got sorted out.

The original recommendation to council was for the issues raised by East Village residents and Desmarais to be referred to the Healthy Community and Quality of Life Committee to be added to its mandate.

That didn't sit well with some councillors or neighbours.

Resident Dee Tillbrook spoke to council and asked why they should be happy to see their concerns taken to a committee that has not yet been formed.

"The fact that, if we are to be a sub-committee of this committee, how are we to know what's going on because there's no mandate. There is nowhere for the public to go to see who's on this committee," Tillbrook said.

In the end, council created the neighbourhood improvement task force. Desmarais said the city will soon advertise for members, with a deadline of the end of October. Once council chooses the three community members, the task force will meet.



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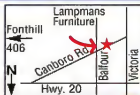
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LOCAL NEWS

■ **THE WAR OF 1812:** Local marine archeologist buoys the tale of HMS General Hunter

Welland man digs into historic shipwreck

GREG FURMINGER
Postmedia Network

Ken Cassavoy helped to unearth the ruins of a War of 1812 era ship from the sands at Saugeen Shores a decade ago.

Now he wants to elevate its profile.

A marine archeologist since his 30s, the man now in his 60s who just three months ago settled in Welland is pushing to have the ruins of HMS General Hunter designated a national historic site.

It was always known there were wrecks near Southampton, Ont., but it wasn't until 2001 that friend Duncan McCallum literally stumbled upon General Hunter while walking on Southampton Beach. He had tripped

over one of the blackened timbers poking through sand.

After preliminary digs that yielded a barge buried along with the 10-gun brig, Cassavoy as project director led an army of about 200 volunteers for a major nine-week excavation in 2004.

"This is the first ones that I've excavated that was above ground," says Cassavoy, who was also the lead on Lake Ontario exploration of the schooners *Hamilton* and *Scourge*, which were converted for war and which both went down in August 1813, north of west St. Catharines.

Built in 1805 at Amherstburg, the ship buried much further north on Lake Huron was confirmed as General

Hunter based on archived records that included marine accounts and blueprints.

General Hunter was captured by the U.S. during the September 1813 Battle of Lake Erie toward its western end. Three people aboard were killed and five wounded.

(Of note to Niagarans, one of those ships involved in the battle was the U.S. brig *Niagara*, a replica of it which appears today as a regular friendly visitor to Port Colborne's Canal Days Festival.)

The captors dropped General from the ship's name. It was deliberately beached on British soil during an August 1816 storm to protect its crew, which rowed its way back to safety on the U.S. side.

The Americans returned to the area then uninhabited by European settlers and burned Hunter down to the sand line, to be able to easily reclaim its iron and other valuables.

But not everything disappeared with the ashes.

Cassavoy and his crew



A General Hunter 2004 excavation afternoon information session for public is shown in this photo by Larry LePage, courtesy of Ken Cassavoy.

uncovered the hull of the ship and charred timbers, a small swivel cannon, iron nails and spikes, cannon balls, lead shot and a bayonet. Also found were some ceramics, spoons and military buttons.

The artifacts from General Hunter were put into a 3/4-scale replica built at Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre to mark the war's bicentenary.

Its flag, Cassavoy says,

which long ago had been captured in battle, is today displayed at a recently commissioned naval base in Windsor. About 35 per cent of the General Hunter hull remains. It has been reburied for preservation and is denoted by a community plaque.

"This wood is in excellent shape. It's all white oak," Cassavoy says of hull of the vessel, which would have been about 20 metres long.

To relocate the hull, Cassavoy estimated it would cost about \$4 million to \$5 million in 2005. Although there are solid ways to conserve it, a plan that would justify costs has not materialized, he says.

A group of about a dozen people called Friends of General Hunter monitors the site regularly.

"It has the protection of being an archeological site, but it doesn't offer it any serious protection," the archeologist says.

Nor does it do much to prevent its history from staying buried.

That's why Cassavoy last month applied as an individual to Parks Canada's Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada to get it a national historic designation, as has been granted to the *Hamilton* and *Scourge*.

"It will raise its profile to a large degree," says Cassavoy, who says it's important that Canada's early 19th-century war history — that which shaped the nation — be better told.

"It's been my experience that few people know about the war."

Cassavoy, who spent 20 years bringing the news to radio listeners, including for a decade on AM680 and while teaching broadcasting to students at Centennial College in Toronto, wrote a chapter on the General Hunter for a 2014 book titled *Coffins of the Brave: Lake Shipwrecks of the War of 1812*.

For now, that story can not be found at the local library.

greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca
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LOCAL NEWS

■ **FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES:** Providing homes to children in need

Fostering a sense of hope

ALISON LANGLLEY
Postmedia Network

All it took was a photograph to change their lives.

After coming to terms with the fact they would never have children of their own, Jacque and Nick Langley were considering international adoption before they heard Family and Children's Services Niagara had children in care who needed loving homes.

Not long after the Niagara Falls couple attended an information program through FACS to learn what's involved in adoption and fostering, the phone rang.

Two girls, then ages two and three, needed a home.

The couple met with FACS and were handed a photograph of the two little girls.

"They handed us a photo-

graph of them and at once that was it," Nick said.

"It was an instant connection," Jacque added. Ten years on, the family of four has grown — substantially.

The Langleys now have four adopted children and they've fostered more than 11 children over the years.

"Right now, we're a family of six," Jacque said.

"If we had more bedrooms, we'd have more kids," Nick said with a laugh.

The couple also provides emergency placements if needed. The placements can last a day, a month, or longer.

"It's not about us wanting a child," Jacque said. "It's making sure the child is matched with a family so their needs are met first and foremost.

FOSTER PARENTS

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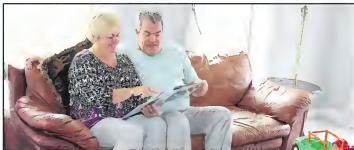
■ **Needed:** Families who wish to care for teens

■ **Needed:** Families who wish to care for infants and toddlers

■ **Call 905-937-7731 or 1-888-937-7731 or visit www.facsniagara.on.ca**

"The goal as much as possible is to have the child reunited with their family. The reward is seeing that process through when they're with you, they're a part of your family."

FACS recently recognized



ALISON LANGLLEY/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Jacque and Nick Langley have adopted four children and fostered 11 through Family and Children's Services Niagara.

the Langleys for their years of service at its annual foster parent appreciation night in advance of Foster Family Week, which runs to Oct. 25.

"Foster parents require a special kind of energy, combined with patience, to help them respond to the varying demands and needs of the children they are for," said Chris Steven, the agency's

executive director.

"It takes a special kind of person to embrace this lifestyle. I don't know what we would do without them."

There are currently 473 children in foster care with 173 foster families in Niagara. There is an urgent need for more foster families.

"Foster parents provide safety, stability and security during a tough time in these

youngsters' lives," said Ann Godfrey, FACS spokesperson.

"They make all the difference in how these kids not only survive these challenges, but thrive."

The Langleys hope others will follow in their footsteps.

"I hope somebody who is thinking about fostering picks up that phone," Jacque said. "If you have curiosity, make that call."



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Please refer to www.niagararegion.ca/waste for a full list of acceptable materials and packaging and handling requirements.

All material that is brought to the event is recycled, reused or disposed of in a safe and proper manner.

Waste Info line: 905-356-4141

Toll-free: 1-800-594-5542

Niagara Region

Base provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

The Wainfleet Lion's Club will also be holding a charitable food drive collecting food and donations.

Examples of Acceptable Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

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Batteries
Cleaners
Gasoline
Lawn care products
Motor oil
Pool chemicals
Paint
Propane tanks
Solvents
Sharps (Syringes)

Unacceptable Materials

Ammunition
Ballasts
Commercial or Industrial waste
Explosives
Electronics
PCBs
Pathological waste
Smoke detectors
Radioactive Waste

■ CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Making a call helps kids at risk

ALISON LANGLEY
Postmedia Network

Niagara's child welfare agency in 2014 provided protection services to more than 9,600 children.

In the majority of those cases, Family and Children's Services Niagara was able to help because someone cared enough to make that initial call.

"We know people struggle with making that call," said Chris Steven, executive director at FACS.

"We can all think from time to time that somebody else will take care of it and they don't need to do anything, but the question is, if you don't speak up, who will?"

October is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the local agency is using the campaign as an opportunity to raise awareness about the shared responsibility as a community to ensure children are safe.

Every person in Ontario has a legal and ethical duty to report their concerns regarding the care and safety of a child in their community.

"People might think they will be getting someone in trouble, but what they could be doing is helping a family get some help that's badly needed," Steven said.

FACS representatives recently met with the Ontario College of Teachers and the Niagara Regional Police to discuss the OCT's advisory as it related to reporting child abuse and neglect.

The agency's Professional Advisory — Duty to Report provides information for certified teachers to help them recognize the signs of abuse and neglect, report suspicions immediately and to "reflect to ensure that they have done all they can to protect children," said Michael Salvatori, CEO and registrar of the Ontario College of Teachers.

FACS is also hosting several community connections events across Niagara where staff can meet with community partners to share information on their respective agencies.

The Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre launched its new website — www.kristen-frenchcan.org — recently to not only mark its eighth anniversary, but also to coincide with Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The new site is very user friendly and can be read on a number of platforms," said Janet Handy, the agency's executive director.

The site provides information about the centre as well as resources for parents, professionals and educators on the prevention, awareness and response to child abuse.

In addition to the new website, the agency which serves Niagara's 12 municipalities, partnered with FACS this month to "make people aware of how important it is to prevent child abuse and report child abuse."

Last year, FACS saw 9,626 children due to concerns about their safety and well being.

This was based on 5,630 referrals from the community, which resulted in 3,353 actual investigations.

At any given time, more than 900 families are receiving ongoing child protection services, representing thousands of children.

"Generally speaking, people want to be good parents. We want to do the best we can for our kids," said Ann Godfrey, director of development and public relations at FACS.

"But sometimes there are factors that really stress parents — it might be poverty, it might be domestic violence, or an addiction or mental health issue — that places a child at risk."

Fewer than four per cent of children served are admitted to care, and 75 per cent of those will be able to return home to parents or family members within three months.

For more information, visit www.facsniagara.on.ca.



JANET HANDY/
POSTMEDIA
NETWORK
Janet Handy, executive director of the Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre in St. Catharines. The Centre has re-designed their website.

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■ WOMEN'S PLACE OF SOUTH NIAGARA

Beach-themed walk planned to fight violence

MICHELLE ALLENBERG
Postmedia Network

Put on your best beachwear and don't let winter get in the way of raising money for a good cause.

Women's Place of South Niagara will host the Walk Against Violence Everyone, or WAVE, to wipe out domestic violence on Nov. 14. The walk will be held at Seaway Mall in Welland.

Participants can dress up in beachwear for the five-kilometre walk that starts at 9 a.m.

To participate in the walk, adults must raise a minimum of \$60 and adolescents 11 to 17 must raise at least \$30. Participants will have a fundrais-

ing page set up for family and friends to pledge money.

All donations will go toward supporting Serenity Place in Welland and Nova House in Niagara Falls. The funds provide women and children programs and opportunities to leave an abusive situation.

During the 2014-15 year, Women's Place housed 281 women and children in shelters in Welland and Niagara Falls. The organization receives about five calls a day from people seeking assistance.

To sign up or learn more about the walk, visit www.womensplaceSN.org.

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MICHELLE ALLENBERG/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

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Women's Place vice-president Deborah Richards, left, has some fun with development director Amanda Braet at the announcement of the Walk Against Violence Everyone at the Seaway Mall on Thursday.

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■ REAL ESTATE

Niagara home prices jump in latest quarter

DON FRASER
Postmedia Network

Indications are Niagara's home real estate market is in a robust phase.

A Royal LePage House Price Survey released last week showed decent price appreciation in home prices across the region.

Among its findings are the average price of a home increased 7.8 per cent to \$289,277, the median price of a two-storey home edged up 3.6 per cent to \$314,567, and the median price of a bungalow jumped 11.4 per cent to \$271,446.

The figures represent prices in the third quarter this year, compared to the same period in 2014.

Nationally, the price of a home in Canada increased eight per cent year-over-year to \$502,643 in the third quarter.

"This is our best year ever in terms of year-over-year increase," said Brad Johnstone, broker of record for Royal LePage Niagara Real Estate Centre. "We're seeing unprecedented increases in unit sales

and price in most markets."

Johnstone said a key market in St. Catharines and Niagara has been buyers and retirees from Hamilton, Burlington and the GTA who are selling their homes there and getting perhaps twice the property here or substantially more.

A related trend is young professionals who've grown up in the region, moved elsewhere, are now moving back to Niagara with their families to settle into homes larger than they could afford elsewhere.

Some in that category are Toronto-based workers who have arranged more flexible work schedules not requiring as many trips to Toronto.

"So, they're moving back to Niagara because they want to raise their families here," Johnstone said.

There has also been investment in residential properties by families of foreign students at Brock University and Niagara College.

"It boils right down to value. There is great value here still," Johnstone said.

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■ HEALTH



GRANT LAFLECHE/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Dr. Rhonda Collins, who leads the Hotel Dieu Shaver rehab centre's new memory clinic, and Dr. Jack Luce, the centre's chief of staff.

Memory clinic opening at Hotel Dieu Shaver

GRANT LAFLECHE
Postmedia Network

Dealing with dementia is a frightening prospect for anyone.

The inexorable loss of mental faculties and the toll it can take on a family are hard enough. When a condition such as Alzheimer's disease is not detected early enough, it can make life all the more difficult for someone.

While dementia cannot be cured in most cases, early detection can result in better treatment and quality of life for a patient and their families. But catching it early is often difficult for family doctors.

A new clinic at the Hotel Dieu Shaver rehabilitation centre is hoping to change that for Niagara residents when it opens on Nov. 9.

The memory clinic will be accessible to people across the region, giving increased access to services for patients and their care givers.

Following a model established in Kitchener, memory clinics are staffed by physicians and nurses with specialized training in diagnosing and treating dementia. Patients are put through a battery of cognitive and functional tests to determine if they have dementia. If they are, the patients are put on a treatment plan, or referred to a specialist.

Dr. Rhonda Collins, who heads up the Hotel Dieu clinic, said memory clinics are common enough in Ontario but are typically only found in family health teams — such as the Garden City Fam-

ily Health Team where she works — and are only accessible to patients of those teams.

The Hotel Dieu Shaver clinic will be open to any patient referred to it by a family doctor, she said.

Collins said if family doctors do not have specialized training to know what to look for, the early signs of dementia can be overlooked.

"Often times patients with dementia are very good at hiding it," said Collins. "This is often because it involves short-term memory loss. They can appear completely normal and tell you everything that happened to them as a child, but can't remember what they had for breakfast."

Collins said dementia is on the rise due to Canada's aging population — particularly in communities such as Niagara that have an older demographic — so more emphasis on geriatric medical services, even at the family doctor level, is going to be necessary.

When the outpatient clinic opens on Nov. 9, its first patients will be those already being treated at Hotel Dieu Shaver.

However, the rehab centre has already posted its referral form on its website for family doctors in the region to use. It can be found at www.hoteldieushaver.org/site/referrals-admissions-guidelines.

grant.lafleche@postmedia.ca
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■ **FUNDRAISER:** Red Bull event to benefit spinal-cord research

Wings for Life run coming back

RAY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

Niagara Falls will again represent Canada when the 2016 Red Bull Wings for Life World Run returns to the Honeymoon Capital in May.

Earlier this year, more than 700 runners took off from Kingsbridge Park at the same time as more than 100,000 participants from around the world for the same cause: To raise more than \$5.5 million for spinal-cord research.

On May 8, Niagara Falls will host one of 35 runs across six continents in the simultaneous event, which will be broadcast live.

Registration is now open at www.wingsforlifeworldrun.com, with 100 per cent of entry fees going directly towards spinal-cord research.

Unlike a traditional race, there is no static finish line. Competitors run in front of an advancing "catcher car," with each car around the world governed by a single, global race schedule. A half-hour after the runners start, the pace car at every race location begins on the track.

Once a car overtakes a runner, their race is over. This continues until there is only one male and one female in the world left running.

Only they will be crowned the Wings for Life World Run champions, meaning runners not only compete head to head with those in their country, but also around the world.

Blaine Penny, of Calgary, won the Niagara Falls event last year with a total distance of 65 kilometres, which also made him the last male running in any of the three North American events.

Canadian Olympic cyclist Lyne Bessete, of Quebec, won the women's category with a run of 47 km.

At the global level, Lema-work Ketema, of Ethiopia, was the last male running in the world for the second

year in a row with a distance of 79.9 km.

It's estimated that three million people are living with a spinal-cord injury around the world. Every year, 130,000 more sustain a spinal-cord injury, followed by paralysis — the main cause being traffic accidents.

In Canada, there are more than 86,000 people living with spinal-cord injury, with 51 per cent as a result of traumatic injury. Each year, it's estimated, there are 4,300 new cases across the country.

Organizers said they were looking for an "iconically Canadian" destination to

host the run, and Niagara Falls fit the bill.

They said Niagara Falls also has the "perfect layout" for the run, which is a 100-km stretch, which is flat or with an equivalent elevation.

Organizers said they're expecting between 1,000 and 1,500 runners in Niagara in May, adding they were fielding questions throughout the summer wondering if the run would return.

Niagara Falls Tourism chairman Wayne Thomson said just like it was earlier this year, the 2016 run should be "pretty spectacular."

"This year we had more than 700 runners with their

2015 STATS

Global runners: 101,280
Niagara Falls runners: 750
Global kilometres run:
1,059,529
Global money raised: \$5.5M

friends and their families coming to Niagara Falls and being the only stop in Canada, the massive publicity that we get from that is huge," he said.

"That's what it's all about — getting as many events and happening as you can. Here at Niagara Falls Tourism, we'll get it on our website and promote it and market it. We're looking forward to it."

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LOCAL NEWS

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■ ENTERTAINMENT



SPECIAL TO POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Sweet Pepper Klopek, left, and Burnaby Q. Orbach are bringing *Monsters of Schlock* to TV. The duo have started a Kickstarter campaign to film a six-episode series, after a notorious show on the road.

Monsters of Schlock invade TV

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

"They've endured every kind of horror they can inflict on each other, but are the Canadian mad men of *Monsters of Schlock* ready for a prime time series?"

As always, they'll give it a shot. Painfully.

The crazed performance art duo of Sweet Pepper Klopek of Niagara Falls and on-stage partner Burnaby Q. Orbach of Guelph have filmed a pilot, and are trying to crowd fund \$25,000 on Kickstarter to film the rest of a six-episode series they describe as *Super Duper Osborne* meets *Flight of the Conchords*.

Despite their reputation for mind-boggling, gross out antics, they insist this won't be another *Jackass*.

"When people hear we're doing a TV show, that's usually what they think," said Klopek, former singer for Niagara band The Legendary Jackpaws. "Some sort of cross between *Jackass* and *America's Funniest Home Videos*. What we're actually doing is totally different."

The show aims to be a sitcom based on their "hilariously ridiculous lives," written and directed by Brett Nikita. The story follows Orbach trying to expose his successful former partner as a hack magician doing lazy tricks.

Meanwhile, Klopek is breezing through life with an open mind and open heart, exploring a lifelong fascination with cryptozology.

Klopek said fans can help fund the shows in different ways on Kickstarter — \$100 gets you to a red carpet screening of the entire season in Niagara Falls, while \$5,000 gets you your own personal performance. For \$40, you'll get the entire series on DVD when it's released.

For Klopek, the rigours of a TV show will seem calm after an intense decade on the road, setting six Guinness World Records along the way. They perform about 200 live shows per year in bars and college campuses across the country, though they were banned in licensed venues in Alberta in 2008.

"For the last 10 years we've been touring the world with our very physically intense stunt show," Klopek said. "We're actually kind of looking forward to being in one place for a while."

"The older we get, the longer it takes to heal. Shockingly, we're holding up pretty well."

The duo appears on the Oct. 5 taping of *Live on Queen* with David Green at Taps Brewery in Niagara Falls. The episode went online Oct. 12.

john.law@postmedia.ca

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New pear gets a fresh makeover

A pear with a cool name will hit store shelves this fall, and growers have their fingers crossed consumers will warm up to it.

It's called the Cold Snap, a new moniker for a fruit that was originally expected to make its debut in grocery stores last year, were it not for the chilly reception given to its original handle, the ho-hum AC Harwin Sundown.

"Sundown was an OK name but it wasn't going to grab people's attention," said Matt Ecker, sales and business development manager for the Vineland Growers

Co-operative, which will market the Cold Snap. "We didn't want it to be a boring pear name."

Yet that's what it had for nearly eight years. The AC stood for Agriculture Canada, which bred the pear by crossing different varieties to produce a fruit that tasted good, had the looks to catch consumers' eyes and would be resistant to diseases known to rare orchards filled with old standards like the Bosc or Bartlett.

Harwin was a nod to where it was developed: the agricultural research stations at Harrow and

Vineland.

And Sundown? That was the name chosen from a shortlist of options given to pear fans at the 2007 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto where the pear's breeder, David Hunter, offered up samples and a naming contest ballot to those who stopped by his booth.

"When you give consumers four names, they only have four names to choose from," Ecker noted.

Yet there was a lot more riding on this pear than bragging rights that come with picking the winning name.

Of all the fruits we grow in the region, the pear doesn't generate the excitement of a peach, cherry or grape does. After all, the Bosc and Bartlett have been around since the 1800s, and more than a century on, have a bit of a reputation for being dullards.

The pressure was on to come up with something that would be the apple of consumers' eyes, because as Vineland Growers' president Mike Ecker told me last fall when I checked in on the fruit, you only get one chance to wow consumers.

This pear had been in the works for decades, and no one wanted to risk a debut short of peachy.

"The whole industry in Canada is relying on these new pears and this one is the best of the bunch," Ecker said at the time. "This is our chance to have a thriving pear industry."

A marketing firm was hired. Focus groups were struck to determine changes in consumer perspectives since the 2007 naming campaign.

So began a year-long makeover of the Sundown, a squat pear with yellow-green skin and a striking red cheek.

Marketers and researchers at the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre honed in on the pear's attributes. It was ready to harvest later than other pears, which farmers appreciated. As trees matured and crop sizes grew, the pear would be available throughout the winter — the cold — when other local varieties are replaced by imports.

There was also its crunch — a snap, really — when sinking one's teeth into it. The Cold Snap was born.



TIFFANY MAYER / SPECIAL TO POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Vineland Growers' Co-operative marketing co-ordinator June DenBak will be spending this fall getting consumers to warm up to the Cold Snap pear that will hit store shelves in November.

Next came the packaging. Unlike other pears sold in bulk in the grocery store, the Cold Snap will be sold in clam shells and bags with eye-catching ice blue labels adorned with stylized pears and its name in whimsical cursive.

It's a label meant to convey fun, the antithesis of some of the Cold Snap's cousins; femininity, given it's not uncommon for the matriarchs of families to do the shopping and foodie, to appeal to those with a more intense interest in what they eat.

In July, June DenBak arrived at Vineland Growers' as the co-op's marketing co-ordinator tasked with getting the Cold Snap in consumers' hands.

DenBak will lead the campaign to launch the Cold Snap at the Royal in November and have it hit store shelves at the same time.

She'll offer samples and recipe cards to demonstrate the pear's taste and versatility.

The Cold Snap will take to Twitter and Instagram, too.

In a quest to generate buzz.

The goal isn't just to get people excited about the Cold Snap. "It's getting people more interested in pears," DenBak said.

Meanwhile, no one seems sad the sun set on the AC Harwin Sundown.

In 1968, the first of 25 growers in Canada to plant Cold Snap trees on his Niagara-on-the-Lake farm, still refers to the pear by the number it was given by scientists in its early days of development. It's a sign of his own resistance to the clunky AC Harwin Sundown tag.

"I don't even want Sundown to be out there," Fedorkow said. "It's a whole new pear. It's not the Sundown. It's the Cold Snap. This is a fresh new beginning. It's a great pear, and to me that's much more important."

Tiffany Mayer writes about local food and farming at eatingsnaga.com. She is author of *Niagara Food: A Flavorful History of the Peninsula's Bounty* (The History Press). You can reach her at eatingsnaga@gmail.com.

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■ **U.S. STEEL CANADA:** Court decision hurts former Stelpipe, Welland pipe workers

Benefits loss anger pensioners

MICHELLE ALLENBERG
Postmedia Network

A recent Ontario Superior Court decision has left more than 20,000 pensioners — including about 300 in Welland — without health benefits.

Ontario Superior Court Justice Herman Wilton-Seigel approved the U.S. Steel plant to sever its

operations in Canada on Oct. 9, affecting workers including some from the former Stelpipe and Welland Pipe plants in Welland.

In 2014, U.S. Steel Canada Inc. (USSC) entered into bankruptcy protection. The Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act judge decided to seal health

benefits for pensioners. In court Oct. 8, the judge said a decision had to be made "quickly due to USSC's urgent financial situation."

But some observers felt U.S. Steel is "playing a game" and forcing a bankruptcy. Stelpipe retiree Terry Rogers and Unifor Local 523 president

Rick Alakas feel the decision is a tragedy.

"To me, it's a forced bankruptcy. It's a sneaky way to get out from under the obligations that they have to the municipalities that they operate in, to those retirees or the vendors that are associated with them," said Alakas.

"Because they just had all their debt wiped clean, they had no interest in running this thing. I believe they didn't."

People who had worked for Stelpipe and Welland Pipe plants for 35 years or more paid into a pension and medical plan over the years.

Rogers said he paid into his plan for 35 years to ensure he and his wife would have enough money for their retirement. The individual cap for workers and their spouses was \$80,000.

"Over negotiations through the years we paid for that. That's what we paid for, that's our money," Rogers said.

"So when I called them and asked them how much I had left on my glasses, prescriptions, and all that, they said you've got \$69,000 left and your wife is OK, she's got \$78,000."

"But now, it's gone," Rogers said, gesturing with his hands.

Alakas shares the retirees' concerns over their loss of benefits. He said he has people calling and visiting him at the Unifor Local 523 office in Welland every day.

"What I can't come to grips with is the Superior Court here in Canada" and its handling of this case, Alakas said angrily.

The Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act allows companies the chance to restructure their affairs. That allows the company to avoid bankruptcy and the creditors to still receive some form of payment.

U.S. Steel Canada has been under bankruptcy protection from CCAA since September 2014. The firm has had the protection extended until Dec. 11, 2015, but filed a motion with the Ontario Superior Court for further assistance.

In a letter to retirees, U.S. Steel Canada states it "seeks to obtain further relief under CCAA so that we can operate beyond 2015."

In a letter to retirees, U.S. Steel stated the motion seeks to conserve money so the company can survive.

It said the court order was necessary due to stakeholders being unwilling to make compromises and bidders unwilling to modify conditions to be acceptable for stakeholders.

The letter states, "Nor have the principal stakeholders in U.S. Steel Canada been able to reach a consensual restructuring agreement."

"Despite the hard work of all employees to date, our internal efforts focused on reducing costs

and improving our competitiveness have not been enough to overcome the challenges currently being faced by the business."

A major concern for Rogers and other retirees is not having money to pay for prescriptions.

People who need medication might not have the resources to pay for it. Rogers said he is worried people might have to mortgage their house or use their savings just to live.

The Ontario government released a statement saying it would make health programs available for retirees and their families over the next six months for anyone with "critical health needs, and to help them transition to available programs such as Trillium Drug Program."

The statement also read "the Ontario Government is providing \$3 million for the establishment of a transitional fund to support retirees who are part of USSC and representatives of the Union and Salaries employees."

Alakas and Rogers agreed it was good the government was providing assistance. But, they added, that means U.S. Steel has "got out of its responsibilities" and "now taxpayers' money will be used."

"The best way I would put it is, it's a travesty that the Ontario courts would allow this because these are the people who helped build the company. Quite frankly, a lot of them put 35 to 40 years in some cases, so they are the people that actually built the company and made it profitable," Alakas said.

"I just have a real hard time understanding how the courts could support the foreign company, in this case a U.S. company, to come in here and just wipe out everyone's benefits."

What worries Alakas and Rogers is this sets a precedent for other companies.

"This is the first time that I can ever recall in the (Creditors Arrangement Act) process that a judge has given a company, whether Canadian or foreign, mostly foreign, everything they have asked for in the court," Alakas said.

Unifor National is supporting retirees as best they can, he said, working with Green Shield to set up a group plan for Stelpipe and Welland Pipe retirees.

It isn't guaranteed yet, but Alakas said they hope to have something set up soon. People who have opted out of a benefit group at a special rate if everything works out.



CITY OF PORT COLBORNE - NOTICE TO CITIZENS APPOINTMENTS TO THE EAST VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE

The City of Port Colborne is accepting applications from residents of the East Village for three positions on the East Village Neighbourhood Improvement Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to assist and make recommendations to Council on matters relating to the improvement of enforcement, safety, security, health, property standards, and quality of life in the area of Port Colborne known as the East Village (the area bound by Durham Street to the north, Lake Erie to the south, Davis Street to the east, and the Welland Canal to the west). The Task Force is responsible for developing a vision for East Village neighbourhood improvements, identifying and prioritizing local issues, and identifying means of securing public input. Appointments will be for staggered terms of two, three and four years.

For further information regarding the East Village Neighbourhood Improvement Task Force, please review the Terms of Reference at <http://portcolborne.ca/page/committees>.

On November 10, 2008, Council adopted a policy respecting appointments to boards and committees. This policy establishes the process relating to the recruitment, selection and appointment of members of the public to boards and committees and the City's expectations of such appointees. The policy requires that successful applicants consent to the release by the City of their name and personal information relating to their education, qualifications and experience which is pertinent to the appointment. Council will release the name of an unsuccessful applicant only with the written consent of the applicant. Please visit <http://portcolborne.ca/page/committees> to access the policy.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of the East Village;
- be eighteen years of age or older;
- be a qualified municipal elector in the City of Port Colborne;
- not be disqualified by the *Municipal Act, 2001*, *Municipal Election Act, 1996* or the *Planning Act*;
- not be an employee of the City of Port Colborne or a local board.

Applicants must provide sufficient information regarding their qualifications and related experience for Council to make an informed decision. The standard form of application is available on the City's website at the above address, and/or from the Clerk's Office.

Applications in person, by e-mail or regular mail will be received by the undersigned up to and including October 30, 2015.

Ashley Grigg, City Clerk
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Personal information is collected under authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and pursuant to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and will be used only to evaluate the suitability of applicants. Questions respecting the collection of information should be directed to the Clerk of the City of Port Colborne.

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A Niagara festival devoted to the work of Canadian playwright Norm Foster opens at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre in June. The inaugural season will be announced Oct. 26.

Foster festival unveiling its first season

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Niagara

The Norm Foster Theatre Festival will announce the first three shows of its inaugural season at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre.

Foster will attend next Monday's announcement along with St. Catharines Mayor Walter Sendak, and says one of the plays will be a world premiere. In fact, the new Niagara festival is where all

his new works will premiere, starting next June.

"It is something I felt I needed to do, to demonstrate my complete commitment to the festival," he said in a release. "I'm not going into this half-heartedly. I'm all in."

Foster has been the most-produced playwright in Canada for the past 25 years, and is a particular favourite of Niagara's community theatres. Garrison Little Theatre in Port Erie opens its season Nov. 6

with Foster's comedy *Mrs. Parliament's Night Out*.

Canalside Players in Welland concludes its presentation of Foster's *The Great Koochag Lake Hollis McCauley Fishing Derby* this weekend at the Welland Community Wellness Complex theatre.

The Foster Festival's first season will run from June to August at the performing arts centre, comprising nine weeks and 72 performances. It will be the first theatre fes-

tival in Canada devoted to the work of a living playwright.

Foster, born in Newmarket, has written more than 60 plays. There are about 150 productions of his work across Canada every year.

The festival is spearheaded by executive director Emily Orford and artistic director Patricia Vanstone.

Monday's announcement starts at 10:30 a.m.

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IN BRIEF

More child exploitation charges laid

A Port Colborne man arrested for child luring in March faces further charges after a seven-month investigation, police say.

Todd Albert Klacko, 46, was charged with two counts of luring a child who he believed

to be under the age of 16 and one count of making available sexually explicit material to a person who is, or he believed to be, under 16.

In a release, police said Klacko is being further charged with accessing child pornography and possession of child pornography.

Police ask anyone with information to contact Det. Dave Biggar at 905-668-4111 ext. 4435.

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ENTERTAINMENT



TOMIA IGZOWITZ/AGENCE QMI

Sarah McLachlan plays the Events Center at the Seneca Niagara Casino Nov. 28.

Sarah McLachlan heads to Seneca casino

JOHN LAW

Postmedia Network

Sarah McLachlan will return to the Niagara area for a date at the Seneca Niagara Casino next Wednesday.

The Halifax-born singer was one of Canada's most successful artists of the 1990s, selling more than 40 million albums and founding the hugely influential Lifted Fair festival in 1997. McLachlan made her first local appearance in several years when she played Artpark in Lewiston, N.Y. last July.

Her biggest success came with 1997's *Surfacing*, which earned her two Grammy Awards and included her anthems *Building a Mystery* and *Sweet*

Surrender.

McLachlan will play the casino's Events Center at 8 p.m. on Nov. 28. Tickets start at US\$45.

The casino's upcoming concerts also include Kim Mitchell at the 500-seat Bear's Den Showroom (Dec. 4), Eric Burdon & The Animals at the Events Center (Dec. 5), The Commodores & The Temptations at the Events Center (Dec. 26) and The Company Men at The Bear's Den (Dec. 31).

Tickets for all shows are available at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

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